

*Boll. Ist. Ent. Bologna*, 34: 75-94). In the majority of cases the insects are winged adults whose presence on the snow can often be attributed to transport by wind or thermals. Sizeable aggregations are frequently observed on buttresses and cols above gullies or steep valleys which funnel the wind upwards (Bruce, W.S., in Thornley, A., 1896. On some Coleoptera from the summit of Ben Nevis, collected by Mr. W. S. Bruce. *Ann. Scott. Nat. Hist.*, 5: 28-31). The two cases described below are apparently of a different nature and therefore perhaps worthy of notice.

While walking on the Scottish mountains during the winter, one seldom observes any insect life. However, whilst walking near Ben Macdui (Cairngorms, NO 005965) about ten larvae of *Anarta myrtilli* were seen, still living and moving, on the snow between the point where the Allt Carn a' Mhaim joins the Luibeg Burn (560m.) and just below Sron Riach (1100m). A couple of others were accidentally kicked out of *Calluna* which was projecting through the snow. The temperatures over the preceding few weeks had been exceptionally low, my walk taking place during a comparatively mild spell with freezing conditions perhaps only attained above 800m. on that particular slope. One wonders whether the larvae, which are known to overwinter, had been "tricked" into premature activity by the rapid rise in temperature.

My other observation concerns a single female snow flea, *B. hyemalis*, found sitting (inactive though still alive) on ice on the ridge west of Am Bodach (Glencoe, 900m., NN 163582). Though I frequently encounter *Boreus* in the Highlands, I have never previously done so at such a high altitude. It seems likely to me that it was carried up to the ridge by the very strong winds of the day before. — A. D. LISTON, 99 Clermiston Road, Edinburgh, EH12 6UU.

THE RECENT SPREAD OF APION CERDO GERST. (COL.) IN S. E. ENGLAND. — It is perhaps not yet widely known among coleopterists, except those living in the south-east of the country, that this weevil — for long restricted in our area to northern England, southern Scotland, and Ireland — has of late been turning up rather frequently in Kent and East Sussex. These captures seem to have begun with a specimen taken by Mr. E. G. Philp, of Maidstone Museum, on the sandhills at Deal (1963, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, 99: 71) and confirmed later by Mr. Colin Johnson, whose very useful paper on this species and its allies (1965, *Entom.*: 80-2) greatly facilitates their correct recognition. At the end of this work it is suggested that quite possibly the southern records of *A. cerdo* may be erroneous; apart from Mr. Philp's to which this does not apply, I have seen none such published, but if there are any much earlier ones I agree that this is indeed likely. Since the species is now certainly breeding in the south-east — but not, apparently, in any midland county which might suggest a link with the northern populations — it is probably safe to conclude that the recent appearance of *A. cerdo* in Kent and Sussex is due not to a southward spread from the northern centres but to an invasion from the Continent.

From the following data (given in somewhat compressed form)

one may trace, roughly, the north- and south-westerly progress of this *Apion* from its presumed arrival at a point on or near the coast in the Deal area shortly before 1962. *East Kent*: Deal, vii. 62; Brook, near Wye, vi.63; Dungeness, vii. 64; Chiddingstone, vii. 69; again at Deal, vii. 69; Wittersham (Rother Levels), ix. 69; Sandwich Bay, viii. 78 in some numbers on *Vicia cracca*, all records of E. G. Philp, who has found it also more recently in a good many other E. Kent localities. *East Sussex*: Milton Street (bank of R. Cuckmere), xi. 73; Little Horsted, vi. 74; Friston Forest, frequent, vi. 75-78; Plashett Wood, vi. 78 on *Lathyrus pratensis* (probably) in numbers: all records of P. J. Hodge, who tells me that *A. cerdo* appears now to be general in his part of the county, equally with its nearest relative *A. subulatum* Kby. On 21.vi.70 I swept a ♀ *cerdo* from a clump of the tufted vetch in the Devil's Dyke area of Brighton Downs; but it was getting late and there was no time to investigate further, and in any case the insect was passed as *subulatum* until much later. Mr. Hodge points out that this is farther west in Sussex than any of his captures, and also that the species has by now probably reached Surrey.

Finally I can report *A. cerdo* from S. E. London and W. Kent, where I took it last year: Woolwich Common, 1 ♀, 31.v.81, and Crockenhill, near Swanley, 2 ♀ ♀, 4.viii.81. In both places it was swept from mixed leguminous plants, including in the latter locality a little *V. cracca*.

I am obliged to the above-named gentlemen for sending me their records and suggesting that I publish them. — A. A. ALLEN.

JOHN ABBOT'S DRAWINGS AND NOTES FOR A PROPOSED SUPPLEMENT TO SMITH AND ABBOT, "THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE RARER LEPIDOPTEROUS INSECTS OF GEORGIA" (1797). — Since completion of my paper on "Smith and Abbot" (93:213-218) I have had relevant correspondence with Mr. J. E. Traue, Chief Librarian, The Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, N. Z. We agree that the Turnbull Library set of Abbot drawings is quite probably the one sent by Abbot to William Swainson in 1818 and is not, as Parkinson (Turnbull Library *Record*, 11, 1978, 26-36) supposed, the "book of Drawings" shipped to Swainson in 1835. The Turnbull set was intended to be published as a supplement to "Smith and Abbot," and Abbot also supplied Swainson with manuscript "Notes to the Drawings of Insects" as he had done when collaborating with Smith. (Actually Abbot furnished a number of customers with sets of drawings and notes which he 'advertised' as supplemental to the Smith volumes, but these appear to have been the only ones meant to be published as such.)

The identity of the drawings with those sent in 1818 is suggested by their number, 103 (one of the total of 104 to match "Smith and Abbot" having been lost; Swainson, *Taxidermy*, 1840, 99-100) and their relatively small size, 34.5 x 21 cm. As explained in my previous paper, Swainson objected that the drawings were not as highly finished as those used by Smith, and chiefly that they were "much smaller in size so that they can never be bound uniformly with that work." In addition to his plans for publication, Swainson wished to bind his original Abbot drawings to match a book which